

January 20, 2009

TO: Members of the Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Mayor Steve Berman, Gilbert, Chair

SUBJECT: REVISED - NOTIFICATION OF MEETING AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 12:00 noon
Friday, January 23, 2009
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room
302 N. First Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee is scheduled for the time and place noted above. Members of the Committee may attend the meeting either in person, by videoconference, or by telephone conference call. As was discussed at the first meeting of the Committee, proxies would not be allowed. Members who are not able to attend the meeting are encouraged to submit their comments in writing, so that their view would always be a part of the process.

For those attending in person, please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Refreshments and a light snack will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, or Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, at (602) 254-6300.

c: MAG Regional Council
MAG Management Committee

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
TENTATIVE AGENDA
January 23, 2009**

		<u>COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1.	<u>Call to Order</u>	
2.	<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3.	<u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Transportation Policy Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Transportation Policy Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.	3. Information.
4.	<u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Committee members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk (*).	4. Recommend approval of the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

*4A.	<u>Approval of the November 19, 2008, Meeting Minutes</u>	4A. Review and approval of the November 19, 2008, meeting minutes.
*4B.	<u>Project Changes – Amendments, and Administrative Modifications to the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, FY 2009 Arterial Life Cycle Program, and Material Cost Changes to the ADOT Program</u>	4B. Recommend approval of amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program, the FY 2009 Arterial Life Cycle Program, as appropriate, to the Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update, and material cost changes to the ADOT Program as shown in the attached tables.

The FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved by the MAG Regional Council on July 25, 2007, and the FY 2009 Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) was approved by the MAG Regional Council on June 25, 2008. Since that time, there have been requests from member agencies to modify projects in the programs. The proposed amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2008-2012 TIP and the FY 2009 ALCP are listed in the enclosed tables. An administrative modification does not require a conformity determination. In addition, Table A notes the material cost changes related to cost increases to the ADOT Program. The Pedestrian Working Group, the Regional Bicycle Task Force, the MAG ITS Committee, the Transportation Review Committee, and the MAG Regional Council have taken various actions on the projects listed in the tables. This item is on the January 14, 2009, Management Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

5. Transportation Planning Update

Staff will present an update of the financial status of the MAG Freeway Program, introduce the peer review process that is currently underway to look at the planned freeway projects in the central area, and provide a summary of the specific corridors and project components that could be changed or delayed as updates to the Regional Transportation Plan, and revised schedule for the freeway program update process.

6. Status Report on the Performance Measurement Framework and Congestion Management Update Study

In April 2008, MAG initiated the Performance Measurement Framework and Congestion Management Update Study to develop a regional transportation measuring and monitoring framework in preparation for the State mandated 2010 performance audit as well as to update the Congestion Management Process in compliance

5. Information and discussion.

6. Information and discussion.

with recently adopted SAFETEA-LU federal requirements. MAG staff will provide a summary and update on the progress of this consultant study. Phase I, a review and assessment of best practices, was successfully completed in September 2008. A draft of this report is available on the MAG website. Phase II, the development of regional performance measures and reporting methodologies, is currently underway. A preliminary framework for regional multimodal performance measures will be presented as well as an assessment report and gap analysis of all MAG observed data sources. A Technical Advisory Group has been formed and is participating in the development of the Regional Performance Measurement Framework. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Proposal to Advance a Portion of the Williams Gateway Freeway

Mesa has requested consideration of a proposal to advance a portion of the planned Williams Gateway Freeway. The advanced project would build the ramp connections with the Santan Freeway and a connection to Ellsworth Road. When completed, the project would provide a better connection to the planned new entrance on the east side of the Phoenix - Mesa Gateway Airport. The attached summary shows the requested advancements for the design, right of way, and construction phases of the project. Mesa has proposed issuing Highway Project Advancement Notes (HPAN), which are secured by the city's excise tax, to fund the accelerated construction. Since Mesa would be issuing the debt, there is no impact on the freeway program's financing capacity. The interest expense on the debt would be divided equally between the Freeway Program and Mesa as stated in the MAG Highway Acceleration Policy adopted February 27, 2008. Mesa has requested that the \$20.4 million of Statewide Transportation Acceleration Needs (STAN) funding that was approved by the MAG Regional Council for right of way acquisition for the freeway be used to cover the interest expense on the financing. Mesa has proposed that 50 percent of the STAN funds would be used to offset the city's interest obligation and the

7. Recommend approval of the Mesa request to advance the design, right of way and construction of an interim connection of the Williams Gateway Freeway between the Santan Freeway and Ellsworth Road by approximately three years to be incorporated into the draft FY 2010 to FY 2014 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan for a conformity analysis and that the STAN funds allocated to the Williams Gateway Freeway for right of way acquisition be used instead to pay for the interest expense associated with the proposed acceleration, recommend that the request for the change in the use of the STAN funds be forwarded to the State Transportation Board for consideration, and recommend authorizing the MAG Executive Director to enter into an agreement with ADOT and Mesa.

remaining 50 percent be used to offset the Program interest. According to the proposal, the net interest cost to Mesa would be \$9.611 million and the Program share would be the same at \$9.611 million. Mesa understands and agrees that if the schedule for the project is delayed due to higher program costs or lower program revenues, the reimbursement to Mesa would be delayed as other projects are also delayed. The Program share of the interest cost represents an additional cost to the Program, however, this additional cost would be offset by the accelerated construction of the project. This item is on the January 14, 2009, Management Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. Legislative Update

Recently Congress has been considering a stimulus package to boost the national economy. To provide information for this effort, staff has provided funding amounts in transportation and other categories that may be possible to implement in a short period of time. Staff will provide an update on these Congressional efforts.

8. Information and discussion.